Utilisation certificate for the release of money under MPLADS

*314. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the requirement of producing a utilisation certificate has been done away with for releasing the next instalment under the MPLADS;

(b) whether the Prime Minister has made an announcement in this regard recently; and

(c) by when the orders in this regard are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI B ALAR AM SINGH YADAV A): (a) It has been decided that the second instalment of Rs. 50 Lakhs for 1995-96 under MPLADS would be released to all the Members of Parliament without linking it with the utilisation certificate.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The necessary steps in the matter are being taken.

Reference of ECL to BIFR

*315. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to slate:

(a) whether Eastern Coalfields Limited has been referred to BIFR;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the break-up of its year-wise losses during the last three years and the total accumulated loss;

(c) whether any revival plan has been formulated by Government as a promoter for submission to BJ,FR and the Operating Agency;

(d) if so, the salient features of the same; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TVtLER): (a) Yes* Sir.

(b) to (e) As per Section 23 of the amended Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, if the accumulated losses of an industrial company, as at the end of any financial year have resulted in erosion Of fifty per cent or more of its peak net worth during the immediately preceding four financial years, the company is required to report the fact of the erosion to the BIFR within 60 days from the date of fmalisation of the duly audited accounts of the company for the relevant financial year. As per this amended provision of the Act, Eastern Coalfields Limited can be deemed to be a potentially sick company as its net worth has eroded beyond 50% as detailed below:—

(Rs. in Crores)

		(As on 31.3.1995)
Equity	: written	1039.00
Less:		1000.24
Accumulated losses		29.52
Misc. expenses to be off		
		9.24

The reference to BIFR was made on 23.11.1995. As per Section 23A (3) of the above cited Act, if the BIFR is of the opinion that an industrial company referred to it is not likely to make its networth exceed its accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting all its financial obligations and that the com-

pany, as a result thereof, is not likely to become viable in future, it may require by an Order an Operating Agency to enquire into and make a report with respect to such matters as may be specified in the orders. Since no order that the BIFR has come to such an opinion about ECL has so far been received no revival plan has been formulated by the Government and no Operating Agency has been identified.

मध्य प्रदेश के विकास के लिए आयोग का गठन

*316. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी** : क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगें कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के विकास के लिए किसी आयोग का गठन किया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विकास हेतु राज्य के किन-किन क्षेत्रों को चुना गया था;

(ग) क्या राज्य के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र के लिए एक पृथक विकास बोर्ड स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन हैं;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या हैं; और

(ड.) सरकार द्वारा उस पर अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई हैं?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बलराम सिंह यादव) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) और (ड.) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Bottleneck in foodgraing export

*317. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN-
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen a report in the 'Hindustan Times' of November 29, 1995, captioned "Bottlenecks hamper foodgrains export";

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) what quantity of foodgrains has been procured by Government during the current year, particularly from Punjab and Haryana and other wheat and rice growing states;

(d) what steps Government have taken to remove the hurdles, being faced by fanners namely, shortage of railway wagons, transportation of foodgrains by road and the lack of facilities for export of foodgrains; and

(e) whether Government will lose foreign exchange on account of these problems and if so, the remedial steps taken?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The report gives a general review of the situation relating to agro exports from India; and highlights transportation bottlenecks like shortage of wagons and reduced loading limits on trucks.

(c) The quantity of rice/paddy in terms of rice procured during the current Kharif 1995-96 marketing season[1] (October-September) and wheat during the current Rabi 1995-96 marketing season (April-March) major wheat and rice growing States is given below:—

(In lakh tonnes)

	Rice*	Wheat$
Andhra Pradesh	2.02	—
Haryana	5.03	31.02
Karnataka	0.08	—
Madhya Pradesh	1.24	1.68
Maharashtra	0.16	—
Orissa	0.52	—
Punjab	34.16	72.90